CLAIMS

1. Use of a protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a patient undergoing treatment with an immunosupressant.

2. Use of a protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide for the manufacture of a medicament for protecting epithelial and/or endothelial cells from the effects of an immunosuppressant.

3. Use of a protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide for the manufacture of a medicament for protecting epithelial and/or endothelial cells from apoptosis and/or activation induced by the administration of an immunosuppressant.

4. Use according to claims 1-3 wherein the immunosuppressant is a nucleoside.

5. Use according to claims 1-3 wherein the immunosuppressant is selected from the groups comprising fludarabine, cyclophosphamide, BCNU, melphalan.

6. Use according to claims 1-3 wherein the immunosuppressant is fludarabine.

7. Use according to claims 1-3 wherein the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide is defibrotide.

8. Use according to claims 1-7 wherein the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide occurs concomitantly, simultaneously, after or before the administration of the immunosuppressant to the patient.

9. Use according to claim 8 wherein the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide occurs after that of administering the immunosuppressant to the patient.

10. Use according to claim 9 wherein the time delay between the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide and that of administering the immu-

nosuppressant to the patient is from about one hour to about two weeks, preferably from about two days to about seven days.

11. Use according to claim 8 wherein the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide occurs before that of administering the immunosuppressant to the patient.

12. Use according to claim 11 wherein the time difference between the step of administering the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide and that of administering the immunosuppressant to the patient is from about one hour to about two weeks, preferably from about two hours to about two days.

13. Use according to claims 1-12 wherein the dose of defibrotide administered is chosen so as to reach a blood level from about 100 µg/mL to about 0.1 µg/mL, preferably from about 10 µg/mL to about 100 µg/mL.

14. Use according to claim 13 wherein the dose of defibrotide administered is chosen so as to reach a blood level of about 10 µg/mL.

15. Use according to claims 1-14 wherein the dose of defibrotide administered is from about 100 mg/kg body weight of the patient to about 0.01 mg/kg body weight, preferably from about 20 mg/kg body weight of the patient to about 0.1 mg/kg body weight.

16. Use according to claim 15 wherein the dose of defibrotide administered is from about 15 mg/kg body weight of the patient to about 1 mg/kg body weight, preferably about 12 mg/kg body weight of the patient.

17. Use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the activation includes enhanced expression of ICAM-1.

18. Use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the treatment with an immunosupressant occurs during stem cell transplantation.

19. Use according to claim 18 wherein the stem cell transplantation is allogeneic stem cell transplantation.

20. A pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective dose of an immunosuppressant and of a protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide.

21. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20 constituted by two different separately administrable formulations, one containing the immunosuppressant and the other the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide.

22. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20 as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use.

23. A pharmaceutical composition according to claims 20-22 wherein the immunosuppressant is a nucleoside.

24. A pharmaceutical composition according to claims 20-22 wherein the immunosuppressant is selected from the groups comprising fludarabine, cyclophosphamide, BCNU, melphalan.

25. A pharmaceutical composition according to 20-22 wherein the immunosuppressant is fludarabine.

26. A pharmaceutical composition according to 20-22 wherein the protective oligodeoxyribonucleotide is defibrotide.

27. A pharmaceutical composition according to any one of the preceding claims characterized by further containing customary excipients and/or adjuvants.

28. A pharmaceutical composition according to any one of the preceding claims characterized in that it is intravenously injectable.